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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products September 2012

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary September steel imports were **\$2.4 billion (2.2 million** metric tons) compared to the preliminary August totals of \$2.6 billion (2.2 million metric tons).

The September change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in hot rolled bars and cut length plates; increases were reflected primarily in oil country goods. Decreases occurred primarily with Turkey and China; increases occurred primarily with Korea.

The year to date final statistics through August 2012 showed steel imports of 20.9 million metric tons compared with 17.9 million metric tons through August 2011. The largest commodity increases occurred primarily in oil country goods and blooms, billets, and slabs. The largest country increases occurred primarily with Brazil, Turkey, and Russia; decreases occurred primarily with Australia and Mexico.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at www.census.gov/trade. On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is November 27, 2012.